



Kenowa Hills Public Schools
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BOARD OF EDUCATION

Committee of the Whole Work Session Minutes

6:00 p.m., Monday, March 9, 2026

Kenowa Hills Administration Building

2325 Four Mile Road NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544

I. Routine Business

- A. A committee of the whole meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 pm at the Kenowa Hills Administration Building, 2325 Four Mile Road NW, Grand Rapids, MI.
- B. President LaBotz opened the meeting with a moment of silence.
- C. Members Present: Courtade, Gustinis, Hart, LaBotz, Roberts, Robinson and Turner are present. Superintendent Hopkins is also present.
- D. Motion by Hart supported by Courtade to approve the agenda. **Motion passes 7-0.**

II. Hearings & Correspondence

- A. Correspondence - None
- B. Board Communication - Members reported on various district events in which they participated during the past couple of weeks.

III. Discussion/Information Item

- A. Office of Teaching and Learning
 - 1. Student Handbook Updates for 2026-27 School Year (First Reading) - Director Dinkelman provided an overview of the proposed changes to the Elementary Student Handbook, Middle School Student Handbook, High School Student Handbook, Pathways High School Student Handbook, High School Curriculum Guide and Secondary Athletic Code of Conduct.
- B. Human Resources
 - 1. Distribution of Section 27(L) Educator Compensation Funds - Director Horner reviewed how and to whom these funds will be distributed.
- C. Finance
 - 1. February 2026 Check Register
 - 2. Condensed Fund Statement
 - 3. Investment Incomes
 - i. Bond Funds
- D. Superintendent's Report
 - 1. 2025-26 Superintendent Goals Quarterly Update - Superintendent Hopkins provided an update on the progress toward meeting his goals.

IV. Public Comment - No attendees provided comments.

The purpose of this meeting is to conduct Board of Education business. There will typically be no attempt to comment or give answers at this meeting. Audience members who wish to make comments are invited to complete the appropriate form located at the entrance. Each speaker has a maximum of three (3) minutes to address the board. Inquiries requiring a response will be referred to the superintendent in the cases where contact information is provided. We ask all individuals making public comments to follow our board policy.

CALL TO ORDER

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVE AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE

BOE COMMUNICATION

OFFICE OF TEACHING & LEARNING

HUMAN RESOURCES

FINANCE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

PUBLIC COMMENT

V. Action Items

- A. Motion by Hart supported by Roberts to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion carries 7-0.**
 - 1. February 23, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - 2. February 2026 General Fund expenditures of \$922,977.67 using checks #86628 through 86782; Food Services Fund expenditures of \$33,989.75 using checks #11781 through 12009; 2022 Building and Site Series expenditures of \$167,647.77 using checks #153 through 157; 2024 Athletic Bond Series expenditures of \$1,859,979.68 using checks #86 through 91; Student Activity expenditures of \$12,663.87 using checks #97585 through 97602. Total expenditures for the month were \$2,998,413.74.
- B. Motion by Hart supported by Courtade to take action on the recommendation to publish 140 Kent ISD School of Choice openings and unlimited State of Michigan 105C School of Choice openings for the 2026-2027 school year. Report #26-026. **Motion carries 7-0.**
- C. Motion by Hart supported by Courtade to approve the petitions of Alpine Township and The City of Walker to strike delinquent personal property taxes. Report #26-027. **Motion carries 7-0.**
- D. Motion by Courtade supported by Hart to approve the purchase of a 2026 Gator XUV 845M HVAC from Four Seasons Yard & Sport (Deere & Company) of Comstock Park, MI through the MiDeal program in the amount of \$29,160 and a Boss blade and spreader totaling \$9,125 from Capitol Project Funds. Report #26-028. **Motion carries 7-0.**
- E. Motion by Hart supported by Courtade to distribute the 27L(2) funds to all regularly scheduled, permanent full-time or part-time employees of Kenowa Hills who are actively on the payroll at the time of distribution and who have been continuously employed by Kenowa Hills Public Schools since at least October 1, 2025. Each eligible staff member shall receive an equal gross amount subject to all applicable federal, state, and local tax withholdings. Third party employees, athletic coaches, substitutes, temporary employees, interns, consultants, and the Superintendent are excluded from this one-time, off-schedule compensation. Other specific details regarding the distribution of these funds can be found within the Letters of Agreement that follow. Report #26-0029. **Motion carries 7-0.**

CONSENT AGENDA

2026-27 SCHOOLS OF
CHOICE OPENINGS
REPORT #26-026

STRIKING OF DELINQUENT
TAXES
REPORT
#26-027

JOHN DEERE GATOR &
EQUIPMENT PURCHASE
REPORT #26*028

DISTRIBUTION OF 27L(2)
EDUCATOR
COMPENSATION FUNDS
REPORT #26-029

VI. Future Items for Consideration

- A. Future Meetings
 - 1. 03/23/2026 6:00 pm Regular Meeting @ Central Elementary
 - 2. 04/16/2026 5:00 pm Special Meeting @ Middle School LGI; Selection of Superintendent Candidates
 - 3. 04/20/2026 6:00 pm Regular Meeting @ Administration Building
 - 4. 04/28/2026 5:00 pm Special Meeting @ Middle School LGI; First Round Superintendent Interviews
 - 5. 04/30/2026 5:00 pm Special Meeting @ Middle School LGI; First Round Superintendent Interviews
- B. Go-Around

FUTURE MEETINGS

VII. Adjournment

- A. Seeing no additional agenda items, President LaBotz adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Courtade, Secretary